

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TITLE: EQUIPMENT FOR EXTRACTING ROOT POST PROSTHETIC ELEMENTS OR IMPLANTS

Preliminary Amendment: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) Instrumentation for extracting prosthetic elements having a root post or for extracting implants, ~~made of an instrument~~ comprising:

two levers (~~1A, 1B~~) connected to each other, in a rotating and non-crossing manner, by means of an articulation (~~2~~), each ~~of these levers thus comprising~~ lever being comprised of a ~~one~~ handle (~~3A, 3B~~) and ~~one~~ ~~an~~ extracting arm (~~4A, 4B~~) extending on either side of the articulation (~~2~~), ~~so that~~ ~~wherein~~ bringing together the two handles (~~3A, 3B~~) causes the two extracting arms (~~4A, 4B~~) to separate, ~~characterized in that the~~ ~~wherein~~ ends (~~4A, 4B~~) of the extracting arms (~~4A, 4B~~) of this instrument are curved so as to form an angle with the ~~a~~ remaining part of these ~~the~~ extracting arms, and ~~in that they comprise~~ ~~wherein the ends are comprised of~~ extracting tips (~~5A, 5B~~) in the form of ~~as~~ clamps ~~designed to be able to be positioned~~, ~~positionable~~ in a detachable way and with a rotational capacity, at ~~the~~ curved ends (~~4A', 4B'~~) of the extracting arms (~~4A, 4B~~).

2. (Currently amended) Instrumentation according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises several~~ ~~further comprising:~~ a plurality of pairs of extracting clamps (~~5~~) having different thicknesses and having notches (~~5b~~) corresponding to different diameters of prosthetic element posts (~~4~~).

3. (Currently amended) Instrumentation according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that the instrument comprises~~ further comprising: a plurality of mechanisms ~~(8,9)~~ for subjecting the extracting arms (4A, 4B) to the action of progressive separating forces.

4. (Currently amended) Instrumentation according to ~~one of the claims 1 or 2~~, characterized in that the instrument comprises Claim 1, further comprising: a mechanism for the automatic return of the extracting arms into a position close together.

5. (Currently amended) Instrumentation according to claim 1, characterized in that it consists of further comprising: at least one gauge (11) comprised of a flat bracket comprising a grasping part or sleeve (11B) and a working part whose having an end is formed by comprised of a calibrating fork (11a), the a thickness of this said calibrating fork corresponding to the thickness of the pair of clamps (5A, 5B) of the extracting arms (4A, 4B) when they the arms are in a position close together; preferably, this instrumentation comprises several wherein said gauges (11) having have calibrating forks (11a) corresponding to different diameters of the prosthetic element posts (T) and having different sizes of extracting clamps (5).

6. (Currently amended) Instrumentation according to ~~one of the claims 1 or 2~~, characterized in that the Claim 1, wherein said clamps (5) have a planar support surface (5a) oriented to the an outside and defining a notch (5b).

7. (Currently amended) Instrumentation according to claim 6, characterized in that the wherein said notch (5b) of the extracting clamps (5) has a decreasing width in the a direction to the a bottom of the notch, this said notch being able to have the in a shape of a V or a spacing that decreases gradually.

8. (Currently amended) Instrumentation according to ~~one of the claims 1, 2, 6 or 7,~~ characterized in that Claim 1, wherein the extracting clamps (5A, 5B) comprise a shaft or cylindrical rod (6), and in that wherein the bent ends (4A', 4B') of the extracting arms (4A, 4B) are equipped with comprised of a traversing bore (7) that permits permitting the detachable and rotatable mounting of the clamps in the extension of the ends.

9. (Currently amended) Instrumentation according to claim 3, characterized in that the wherein said mechanisms for subjecting the extracting arms (4A, 4B) to the progressive removal forces ~~are comprised of~~ comprise a flexible and compressible stop (8) affixed to one (3A) of the handles, relative to the an internal surface of the other handle (3B), ~~in a manner~~ such that when the handles are brought together, this said elastic stop is compressed ~~between them~~ therebetween.

10. (Currently amended) Instrumentation according to claim 9, characterized in that it comprises further comprising: a mechanism (9) for regulating ~~the~~ support of the elastic stop (8).

11. (Currently amended) Instrumentation according to claim 4, characterized in that the wherein said mechanism for automatic return of the extracting arms (4A, 4B) to a close together position is comprised of a leaf spring (10) interposed between the handles (3A, 3B) of the instrument and, tending to separate them said handles.